

May 2011 Weather in Review

May 2011 was a dynamic May with a variety of weather extremes. Although the storm track came further south with more rain making energy, and slightly more rain, the month was still drier than usual for May. May 2011 began much cooler than normal with a strong cold front, followed by strong warming trends that made the month warmer than usual. May 2011 tied for the 10th warmest May at Del Rio since 1906 with May of 1974 and 2009. From 1854 to 2011, May 2011 tied for the 12th warmest May at Austin Mabry, with May of 1939, 1955, 1984 and 2002. From 1885 to 2011, May 2011 tied for the 12th warmest May at San Antonio, with May of 1995 and 2000. At Austin Bergstrom May 2011 tied for the 17th warmest May from 1943 to 2011, with May of 1971 and 2002.

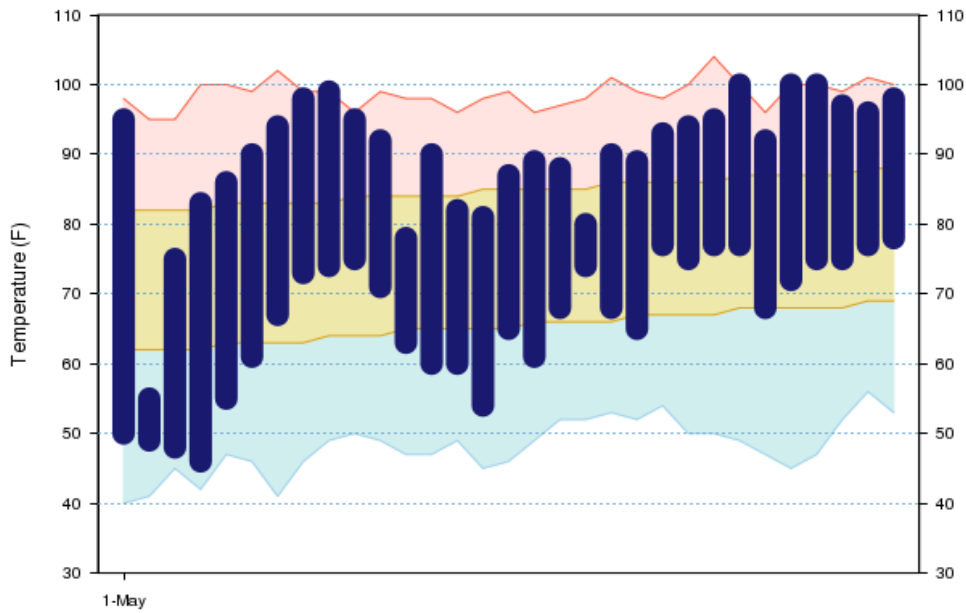
A strong cold front came across South Central Texas in the afternoon and evening of May 1st, bringing much cooler temperatures. Highs on May 2nd were the coolest daytime highs for May 2nd at Austin Mabry, 55, and at San Antonio 60. At Austin Bergstrom the high of 56 was also a record low maximum for May 2nd. Cool early morning lows followed, with record lows at Del Rio of 49 the 2nd; 47 at San Antonio May 3rd; 44 at Austin Bergstrom May 3rd; 38 at Austin Bergstrom May 4th; and 44 at Austin Bergstrom May 5th. The low of 38 at Austin Bergstrom on May 4th was also a low for the entire month of May.

A fast warming trend followed with daytime highs rising to the 90s, breaking the record daily highs at Austin Bergstrom May 8th and 9th and at Austin Mabry on May 9th. Thunderstorms came to the west part of South Central Texas near Del Rio the evening of May 6th and again on Sunday evening May 8th. Clouds increased May 11th in advance of a rain making weather system, that brought the most widespread rains on Thursday, May 12th since the weekend of January 8th and 9th. Another cold front followed on the Saturday the 14th bringing several days with moderated temperatures. Conditions warmed up and clouds increased May 17th to the 19th. The 19th brought a mostly cloudy day in advance of a disturbance that brought thunderstorms on Friday May 20th. Another round of thunderstorms came the 21st over the northern part of South Central Texas, where an EF-0 tornado was observed near Andice in western Williamson County around 9 pm on Saturday evening May 21st.

Thunderstorms returned with disturbances moving mainly north and northeast of South Central Texas on the night of the 24th to early morning of May 25th, and on the evening of the 25th to the early morning of May 26th. A cool front moved across South Central Texas the evening of the 25th to the early morning of May 26. This cool front briefly moderated daytime highs on Thursday May 26th. Hot afternoons returned Friday May 27th and Saturday May 28th. The hottest days of the month came on Wednesday the 25th, Friday the 27th and Saturday the 28th. Moderate to strong south and southeast winds on Sunday the 29th through Tuesday May 31st, took a few degrees off afternoon highs.

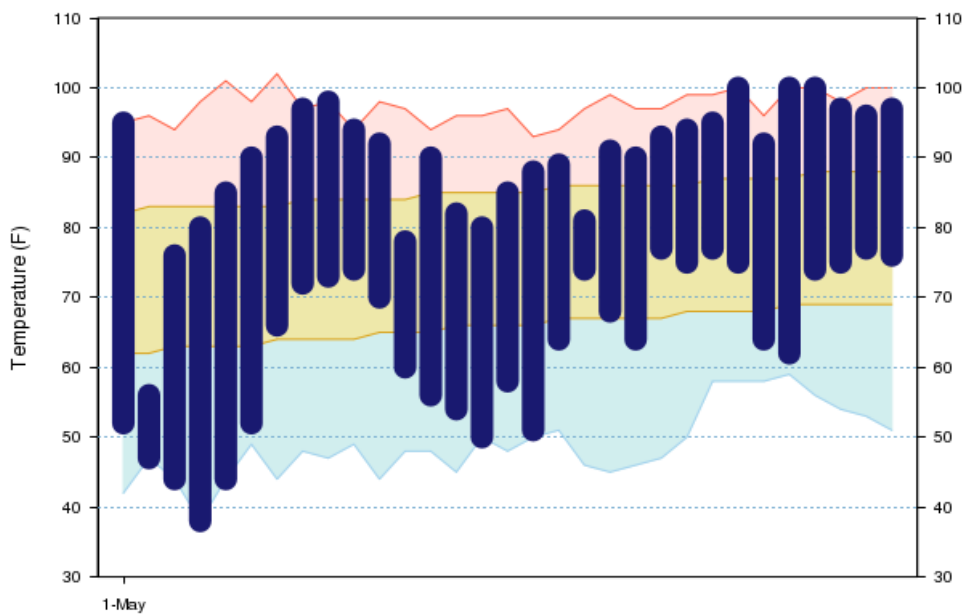
The charts below show the daily highs and lows for Austin, Del Rio, and San Antonio.

Temperature Summary for Austin Area May 1, 2011 - May 31, 2011



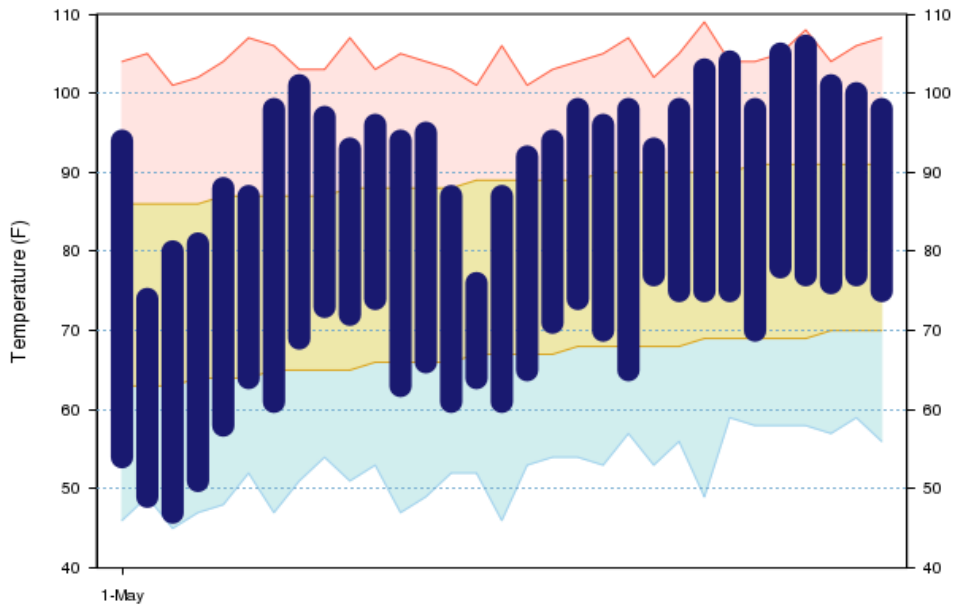
Observed daily maximum and minimum temperatures are connected by dark blue bars.
Area between normal maximum and minimum temperatures has tan shading.
Red line connects record high temperatures. Light blue line connects record low temperatures.

Temperature Summary for Austin-Bergstrom Airport Area May 1, 2011 - May 31, 2011



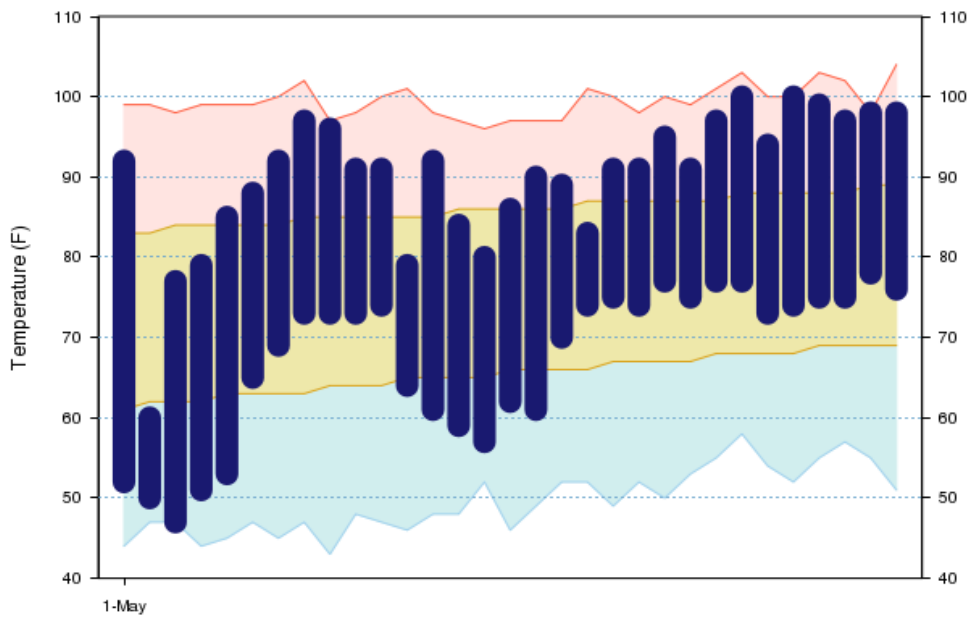
Observed daily maximum and minimum temperatures are connected by dark blue bars.
Area between normal maximum and minimum temperatures has tan shading.
Red line connects record high temperatures. Light blue line connects record low temperatures.

Temperature Summary for Del Rio Area
May 1, 2011 - May 31, 2011



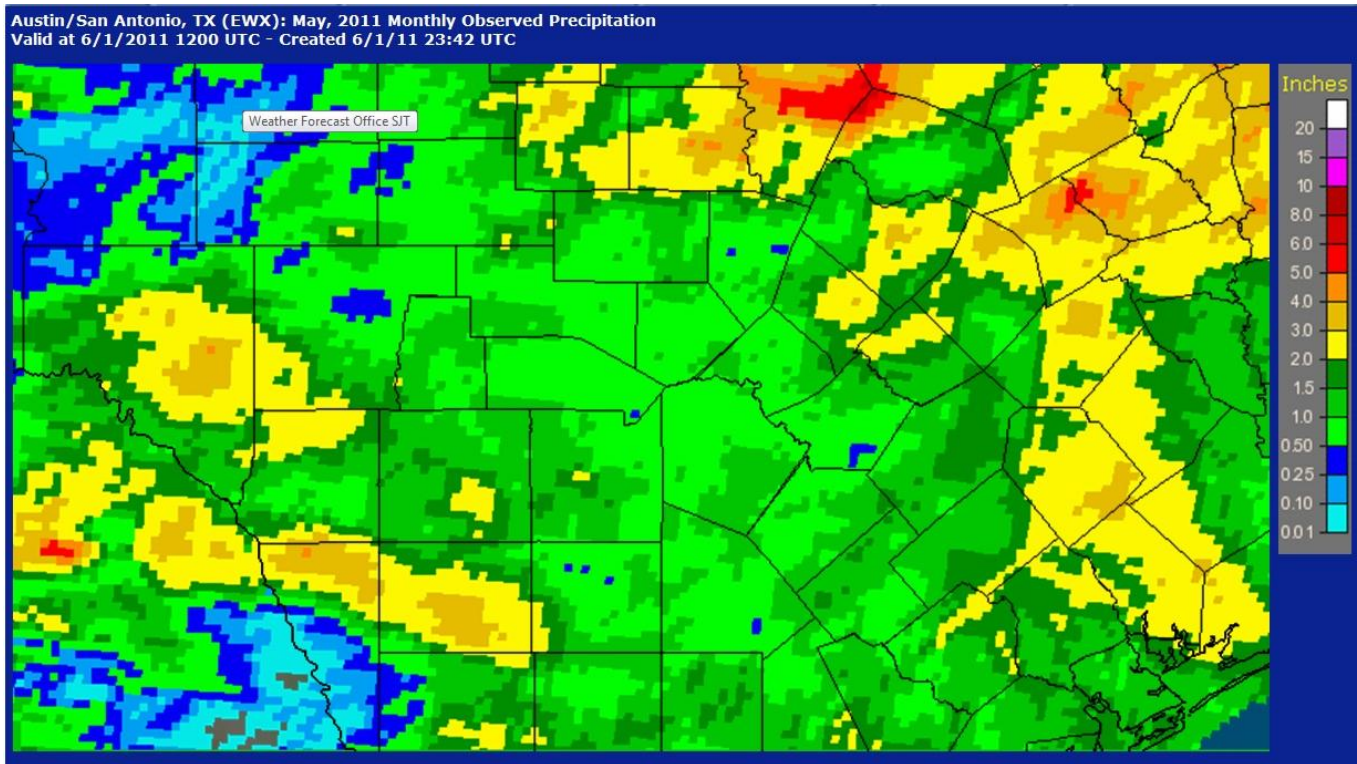
Observed daily maximum and minimum temperatures are connected by dark blue bars.
 Area between normal maximum and minimum temperatures has tan shading.
 Red line connects record high temperatures. Light blue line connects record low temperatures.

Temperature Summary for San Antonio Area
May 1, 2011 - May 31, 2011



Observed daily maximum and minimum temperatures are connected by dark blue bars.
 Area between normal maximum and minimum temperatures has tan shading.
 Red line connects record high temperatures. Light blue line connects record low temperatures.

The image below shows the rainfall across South Central Texas in May 2011. The rains from thunderstorms on May 12th, was the most widespread rain for the area since the weekend of January 8th and 9th of 2011. Although more rain came in May of 2011 than in April, the month was still drier than normal.



Record Spring heat and dry conditions continued from March to May of 2011.

At Austin Mabry March to May 2011 was the 10th driest March to May at Austin Mabry, with 4.01 inches of rain, 5.67 inches below normal or 41 percent of normal. October 2010 to May 2011 was the 2nd driest October to May at Austin Mabry, with 8.96 inches of rain, 13.69 inches below normal or 40 percent of normal. The list below shows the driest March to May and October to Mays from 1856 to 2011 at Austin Mabry.

Driest March to May at Austin Mabry 1854 to 2011.

1. March to May 1961 1.80
2. March to May 2003 2.01
3. March to May 1860 2.84
4. March to May 1960 3.19
5. March to May 1971 3.23
6. March to May 2002 3.25
7. March to May 1857 3.57
8. March to May 1984 3.82
9. March to May 1956 3.94
10. March to May 2011 4.01

Driest October to May at Austin Mabry 1854 to 2011.

- 1. October 1924 to May 1925 7.00**
- 2. October 2010 to May 2011 8.96**
- 3. October 1970 to May 1971 9.29**

March to May of 2011 was the warmest March to May of record at Austin Mabry with the average March to May temperature at 73.6 degrees. The list below shows the warmest March to May periods at Austin Mabry from 1854 to 2011.

- 1. March to May 2011 73.6**
- 2. March to May 1967 72.8**
- 3. March to May 2006 72.6**

At Del Rio March to May 2011 was the 3rd driest March to May at Del Rio from 1906 to 2011, with 1.12 inches of rain, 3.86 inches below normal or 22 percent of normal. October of 2010 to May 2011 was the driest October to May at Del Rio, with 1.39 inches of rain, 8.83 inches below normal or 14 percent of normal.

Driest March to May at Del Rio 1906 to 2011.

- 1. March to May 1956 0.08**
- 2. March to May 1933 0.58**
- 3. March to May 2011 1.12**
- 4. March to May 1998 1.15**
- 5. March to May 2008 1.21**

Driest October to May at Del Rio 1906 to 2011.

- 1. October 2010 to May 2011 1.39**
- 2. October 1955 to May 1956 2.25**
- 3. October 1970 to May 1971 3.22**

March to May of 2011 was the warmest March to May of record at Del Rio with the average March to May temperature at 76.3 degrees. The list below shows the warmest March to May periods at Del Rio from 1906 to 2011.

- 1. March to May 2011 76.3**
- 2. March to May 2000 75.9**
- 3. March to May 2006 75.2**

At San Antonio March to May 2011 was the 2nd driest March to May at San Antonio from 1871 to 2011, with 0.88 inches of rain, 8.33 inches below normal or 10 percent of normal. October 2010 to May 2011 was the 2nd driest October to May at San Antonio, with 5.09 inches of rain, 15.93 inches below normal or 24 percent of normal.

Driest March to May at San Antonio 1871 to 2011.

1. March to May 1961 0.52
2. March to May 2011 0.88
3. March to May 2003 1.06
4. March to May 1996 2.45
5. March to May 1988 2.50

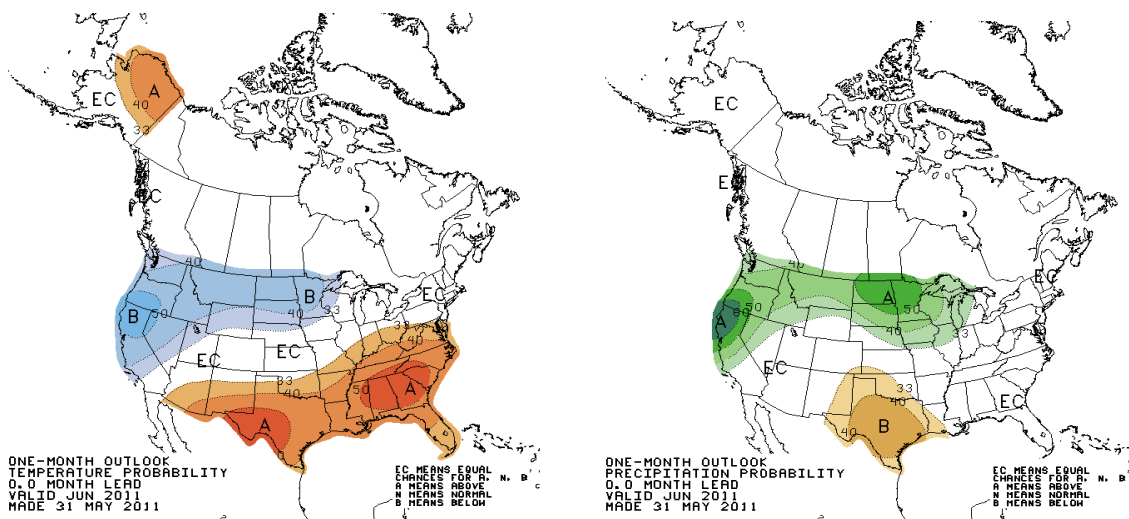
Driest October to May at San Antonio 1871 to 2011.

1. October 1995 to May 1996 4.83
2. October 2010 to May 2011 5.09
3. October 1970 to May 1971 5.27

March to May of 2011 was the 2nd warmest March to May of record at San Antonio with the average March to May temperature at 73.7 degrees. The list below shows the warmest March to May periods at San Antonio from 1885 to 2011.

1. March to May 2006 74.4
2. March to May 2011 73.7
3. March to May 1967 73.4

The June 2011 outlook from the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center follows.



The outlook for June shows a 40 to 50 percent chance of being warmer than normal; a 33.3 percent chance of being near normal; and a 16.7 to 26.7 percent chance of cooler than usual conditions. The outlook for rain shows a 40 percent chance of being drier than normal; a 33.3 percent chance of being near normal; and a 26.7 percent chance of being wetter than usual. [Click Here to See the Latest One Month Outlook from the Climate Prediction Center.](#)

The table below lists information on Climate Normals for the month of June for Austin, Del Rio and San Antonio.

June Climate Information

Location	Normal Monthly Temp.	Normal High	Normal Low	All time High	All time Low	Normal Rainfall	All Time Driest	All Time Wettest
Austin/Mabry	81.0	90.9	71.1	108	51	3.81	0	14.96
Austin/Bergstrom	80.1	89.9	70.2	109	56	3.38	T	15.59
Del Rio	82.9	93.7	72.1	112	49	2.34	T	13.71
San Antonio	81.5	91.4	71.6	107	48	4.30	T	11.95